



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

January 8, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents, Public School Academy Directors and Non-Public School Administrators

FROM: Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D. 
Deputy Superintendent, Accountability Services

SUBJECT: Taiwan - Chinese Language Teacher Recruitment Program

In March 2006, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Education in Taiwan by which up to 15 experienced and/or newly certified Michigan elementary teachers were given the opportunity to study and teach in Taiwanese schools for a full academic year. This program also includes the ability to recruit teachers from Taiwan to teach Chinese language and culture to Michigan students. This is a unique opportunity to assist in the staffing of a content area for which Michigan has a shortage of certified teachers. This program supports the implementation of world language programs in our state, meets the need for internationalizing the education of our youth, and increases the awareness of a global economy. Schools in Taiwan are also readily available to begin "Sister School" relationships with schools here in Michigan.

Michigan school administrators looking to hire teachers for Mandarin Chinese as a part of this program must send the attached application and information documents by mail, email (johnlin@edutw.org) or fax (312-616-1499) to the Taipei Economic & Cultural Office (TECO) no later than **February 27, 2015**. Contact John Lin (TECO) at 312-616-0805 or the Office of Professional Preparation Services at 517-373-3310 for more information.

Attachments

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

JOHN C. AUSTIN – PRESIDENT • CASANDRA E. ULBRICH – VICE PRESIDENT
RICHARD ZEILE – TREASURER • MICHELLE FECTEAU – NASBE DELEGATE
LUPE RAMOS-MONTIGNY • PAMELA PUGH SMITH
KATHLEEN N. STRAUS • EILEEN LAPPIN WEISER

608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • (517) 373-3324



Taiwan – Chinese Language Teacher Program

APPLICATION



Applications for the Taiwan – Chinese Language Teacher Program must be received at the following address or by fax/email no later than 5:00 p.m. on **February 27, 2015**:

Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chicago
Attn: John Lin
180 N. Stetson Ave., Suite 5803
Chicago, IL 60601
Fax: 312-616-1499

- ☐ Our school is interested in becoming a "Sister School" with a school in Taiwan.
- ☐ Our school is interested in hiring a teacher for the Michigan 2015-2016 academic year.

Describe your Chinese language program or plan for program implementation in the space provided below and complete the attached recruitment sheets.

Administrator's Name: _____

District/School/PSA: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____



Taiwan – Chinese Language Teacher Program

PLAN FOR RECRUITMENT



School Information

School District/PSA Name:
Administrator Name:
Website URL:
Mailing Address:
Telephone:
Fax:
Email:

Teacher Recruitment Information

<p>Desired Qualifications: (select level)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> Elementary level<input type="radio"/> Secondary level<input type="radio"/> Both <p>Additional:</p>
<small>*All candidates will be pre-screened by the Taiwan Ministry of Education and will meet certification requirements set forth by them.</small>
Salary & Benefits:
Number of Teachers Desired:
Employment Period:

Frequently Asked Questions

Q
A

Who pays the teacher's salary once hired?

The hiring and employing school pays the teacher's salary and benefits for the length of the contract.

Q
A

Is the teacher from Taiwan certified?

The teacher is certified through the Taiwan Ministry of Education. In addition, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) will authorize the employment of the teacher under the Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2006. A letter authorizing the teacher's employment must be requested by the employing school. This letter can be obtained by contacting the Office of Professional Preparation Services at 517-373-3310.

Q
A

How long can the teacher be employed?

The teacher may remain in the school's employment through this program for up to three years. A contract may be signed between the teacher and the school for 1-3 years. At the end of this time period, the teacher must seek full Michigan certification if they wish to continue employment in a Michigan school.

Q
A

How does the teacher find housing, transportation and acclimating to Michigan living?

Schools have assisted the teacher in many different ways with these basic needs. The MDE recommends that the employing school set up housing arrangements for the teacher's first few weeks in the U.S. The school should also set up a mentor for the teacher. This mentor can guide the teacher with the basic necessities of living in the school's community. However the school decides how to address this need, it is essential to realize that the teacher will need guidance in these areas.

Q
A

Are there any additional costs for this program?

The teacher being hired will be allowed into the country under a J-1 Visa. The total cost for a 3-year visa is approximately **\$2,125.00**. The visa cost is *shared* between the teacher and the employing school. The application for the J-1 Visa is prepared in part by the teacher and in part by the employing school. Within that application, the length of the visa must be determined and mutually agreed upon, as visas for 1-2 years are also available.